

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A method for the production of a heating element that is composed essentially of molybdenum silicide and alloys of that basic material, and a heating element formed from such material. A material is produced that contains substantially  $\text{Mo}(\text{Si}_{1-x}\text{Al}_x)_2$  and  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  by mixing a molybdenum aluminum silicide  $\text{Mo}(\text{Si}_{1-y}\text{Al}_y)_2$  with bentonite clay in a known manner. The bentonite clay contains impure or contaminating substances with which molybdenum silicide cannot be alloyed and with which the symmetry of the crystal lattice of the molybdenum silicide is retained with a combined content of less than 2000 ppm.